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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

- (1) Please replace the paragraph on pages 5-6, lines 28-13, with the following amended paragraph:

91 Referring initially to Fig. 1, a system 10a illustrates an aspect of encapsulated data transmission in accordance with the present invention. A target system 20 outputs formatted data 30 and encapsulated data 34 to a monitoring system 40 via a serial connection 50. The encapsulated data ~~[[30]]~~ 34 may include status information (e.g., error codes, messages, events) relating to the target system 20. For example, the target system 20 may be a UNIX and/or other computer substation, wherein the status is related to operating conditions and events associated with the substation. These events may be related to error messages and failure conditions generated by the target system 20, for example. Upon receiving the status, the monitoring system 40 can automatically analyze the status and/or take further actions based upon the status. Thus, the monitoring system 40 can monitor the encapsulated data 34 and take automated actions such as shutting the target system 20 down in the event of a detected problem. Additionally, the monitoring system 40 can log the status in a memory 60a enabling an operator to troubleshoot and maintain the target system 20. As will be described in more detail below, the encapsulated data 34 may also enable an audio alarm 60b at the monitoring system 40 to further aid the operator.

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(2) Please amend the paragraph on page 8, lines 12-21, with the following amended paragraph:

92 Fig. 3 illustrates a methodology for enabling a first protocol transmission within a formatted data transmission in accordance with an aspect of the present invention. While, for purposes of simplicity of explanation, the methodology is shown and described as a series of steps, it is to be understood and appreciated that the present invention is not limited by the order of steps, as some steps may, in accordance with the present invention, occur in different orders and/or concurrently with other steps from that shown and described herein. For example, those skilled in the art will understand and appreciate that a methodology could alternatively be represented as a series of interrelated states, such as in a state diagram. Moreover, not all illustrated steps may be required to implement a methodology in accordance with an aspect the present invention.